

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. An optical recording medium that is
computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores
software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID
information, and a transmission program for transmitting
10 the inherent ID information to a software distributor
via a communication device.

15

2. An optical recording medium that is
computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores
software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID
information, and a software updating program for
20 rewriting and updating the software in accordance with
update software transmitted from a software distributor
via a communication device based on an authentication
judgment result of the inherent ID information.

25

3. An optical recording medium that is
computer-readable and -writable, which medium stores
software to be distributed, non-rewritable inherent ID
information, a transmission program for transmitting the
5 inherent ID information to a software distributor via a
communication device, and a software updating program of
rewriting and updating the software in accordance with
update software transmitted from the software
distributor via the communication device based on an
10 authentication judgment result of the inherent ID
information.

15

4. The optical recording medium as claimed in
claim 1, further storing a computer information
acquiring program for acquiring information of a
computer that is currently using the optical recording
20 medium,

25

wherein the transmission program transmits the
information of the computer, as well as the inherent ID
information, to the software distributor.

5. A method of updating software distributed and stored in a computer-readable and -writable optical recording medium, said method comprising the steps of:

- transmitting non-rewritable inherent ID
- 5 information to a software distributor via a communication device;
- rewriting and updating the software in accordance with update software transmitted from the software distributor via the communication device based
- 10 on an authentication judgment result of the inherent ID information.